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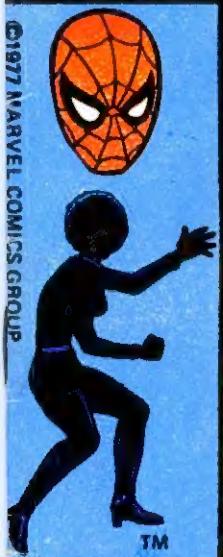
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# MARVEL TEAM-UP

FEATURING

# SPIDER-MAN

AND THE  
**DAUGHTERS OF THE DRAGON!**



IF DEATH  
BE MY  
DESTINY!

Stan Lee  
PRESENTS:

# SPIDEY AND THE DAUGHTERS OF THE DRAGON!

CHRIS CLAREMONT / JOHN BYRNE / DAVE HUNT / BRUCE PATTERSON / ARCHIE GOODWIN  
AUTHOR / ARTIST / INKER/COLORIST / LETTERER / EDITOR

## IF DEATH BE MY DESTINY...

THE TIME IS ABOUT  
TWENTY MINUTES AFTER  
THE END OF LAST ISSUE.  
THE PLACE: COLLEEN  
WING'S INWOOD  
APARTMENT...

THE  
SITUATION...  
IS GRAVE.

THE BEST THING  
WE CAN DO IS  
LET HIM REST--  
WE CAN TALK  
OUTSIDE.

MISTY WILL  
GIVE A YELL  
IF HIS CONDITION  
CHANGES.

HOW'S IRON  
FIST DOING,  
DOC? HE LOOKS  
PRETTY ROCKY--  
SHOULDN'T WE  
BE...



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COLLEEN, YOU SAID ON THE PHONE THAT IRON FIST WAS NEAR DEATH WHEN MISTY AND SPIDER-MAN BROUGHT HIM IN.

HE WAS.  
HE IS.

SURE, THE KID LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN IN A FIGHT, BUT THE ACTUAL PHYSICAL DAMAGE IS MINIMAL. BY RIGHTS, HE SHOULD BE UP AND AROUND IN NO TIME.

THE BODY ISN'T EVERYTHING, ALICE. THERE'S ALSO HIS SPIRIT.

NOT ACCORDING TO MY EXAMINATION.

I'M A DOCTOR, NOT A WITCH. I DON'T KNOW FROM SPIRITS...

HAVE IT YOUR WAY, THEN. I'LL BE BACK TO CHECK ON HIM IN THE MORNING.

COLLEEN, I'M NO MIRACLE WORKER. THERE'S A LIMIT TO WHAT I CAN DO WITHOUT PROPER FACILITIES.

IRON FIST SHOULD BE IN A HOSPITAL.

GOOD NIGHT, ALICE, AND THANKS AGAIN.

THE LADY'S RIGHT, Y'KNOW. IT SEEMS KIND OF SILLY TO WORRY ABOUT IRON FIST'S "SECRET" IDENTITY WHEN HIS LIFE IS ON THE LINE.

IT'S NOT YOUR CHOICE TO MAKE, HERO.

IS IT YOURS, COLLEEN?

YES.

BESIDES, NO HOSPITAL CAN HELP HIM NOW.

I'M NOT SURE ANYTHING CAN.

I UNDERSTAND. THANKS FOR HELPING, THOUGH. AND THANK JERYN HOGARTH FOR SENDING YOU OVER SO PROMPTLY...

...NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

LOOK AT ME, ALL  
TORN UP INSIDE  
OVER A GUY I  
THOUGHT I'D  
CUT OUT OF  
MY LIFE  
FOREVER.

FUNNY,  
I GUESS...

...CONSIDERING  
THE FIRST TIME  
I SAW YOU, IRON  
FIST, I TRIED TO  
BLIST YOUR HEAD  
OPEN.\*

THEN, I GOT TO KNOW YOU,  
AN' I FOUND MYSELF  
LIKING WHAT I KNEW.

WHAT WE HAD  
WAS GOOD, DANNY--  
I HAD SUCH...  
HOPES...

\*MARVEL PREMIERE #21--ARCHIE.

...TILL YOU FORCED  
ME TO CHOOSE  
BETWEEN YOUR  
"FRIENDSHIP"--  
AN' US--AN' MY  
PRINCIPLES.\*  
IT WOULD HAVE  
KILLED ME TO  
GIVE IN. BUT I  
ALMOST DID.

BECUSE...  
YOU ASKED  
ME TO. I  
HATED YOU,  
THEN...

...BUT NOW...?  
WHEN IT'S  
TOO LATE...?

I... CAN'T  
HATE YOU,  
DANNY. I  
LOVE YOU.

MISTY...I...  
KNOW HOW YOU  
FEEL. PART OF  
ME'S ALWAYS  
KNOWN...BECAUSE  
IT FELT THE  
SAME WAY.

\* IRON FIST #13-A.G.

I GUESS THE  
REST OF ME'S  
A KLUTZ.

I NEED  
YOU, MISTY.  
I  
LOVE YOU.

MEANWHILE...

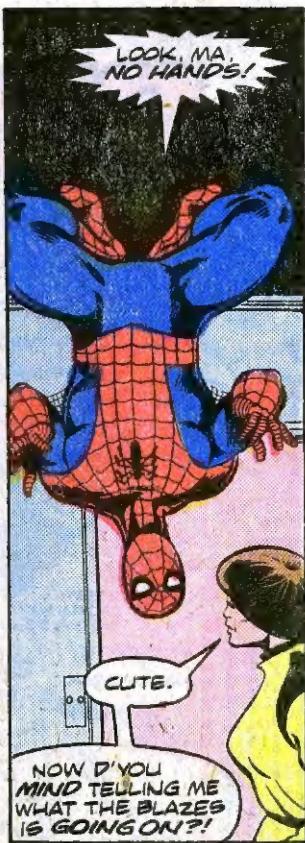
I DON'T LIKE WORKING  
IN THE DARK, WALL-CRAWLER.  
WHAT HAPPENED IN THE  
PARK?

YOU'RE  
BEING AWFULLY  
COOL ABOUT  
THIS, LADY--

--I THOUGHT IRON FIST WAS YOUR FRIEND.

HE'S THAT AND...MORE.  
BUT I'M A PROFESSIONAL,  
AND WHEN I'M WORKING,  
EMOTIONS ONLY GET IN  
THE WAY.

HOLD IT, PAL!  
THAT'S A TATAMI  
MAT FLOOR--NO SHOES  
ALLOWED. YOU CAN  
LEAVE YOUR BOOTS  
OUTSIDE.



WAIT A MINUTE! YOU'RE NOT GOING AFTER SCAR-FACE, ARE YOU? 'CAUSE IF YOU ARE, YOU'RE CRAZY!

IT'S IRON FIST'S ONLY HOPE, SPIDEY. WE'VE GOT TO BRING HIM AND STEEL SERPENT TOGETHER, TRY TO REVERSE THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERRAL...



D'YOU THINK SCAR-FACE IS JUST GONNA STAND AROUND AND LET YOU ZAP HIM?! IF THE POWER HE STOLE CAN BE RESTORED TO IRON FIST...



"UNLESS I READ MY VILLAINS VERY WRONG, WE WON'T HAVE TO GO LOOKING FOR THE CREEP."

"HE'LL BE COMING FOR US-- AND IRON FIST-- AND SOON!"



"AN' I THINK IT'LL TAKE MORE 'N A POP-GUN AN' A KING-SIZE STEAK KNIFE TO STOP HIM."

OUTCAST-- EVEN AFTER MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, THE NAME STILL SEARS HIS SOUL.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS THAT WAY.



AND ONCE I'VE SLAIN IRON FIST, IT WILL BE MINE FOR ALL TIME. I-- THE OUTCAST OF KUN-LUN-- WILL BECOME INVINCIBLE!



...AND FROM THE BEGINNING, DAVOS KNEW HE'D BEEN MARKED FOR GREATNESS...

...KNEW--IN HIS HEART OF HEARTS--  
THAT HE WAS THE CHOSEN ONE OF LEGEND,  
THE ONE DESTINED TO BECOME...

IRON FIST!

THERE IS THE  
RITUAL GARS, MY  
SON. I PRAY THE GODS  
WILL FIND YOU  
WORTHY OF IT.

THEY  
WILL, MY  
FATHER.

IN ALL K'UN-LUN, ONLY ONE MAN WAS  
DAVOS EQUAL: WENDELL RAND-K'AI,  
FIRST-BORN SON OF TUAN, WHO WAS  
THEN YU-TI, THE  
AUGUST PERSONAGE  
IN JADE...

ONE OF THEM--WENDELL OR  
DAVOS--WOULD FACE THE  
LINDYING DRAGON, SHOU-LAO...

...THAT ONE TO BE  
DETERMINED BY A  
TEST OF COMBAT.

AND WHEN  
THE TEST  
WAS OVER...

YIELD, DAVOS--THIS IS  
NO DEATH-DUEL, AND  
YOU'VE EARNED HONOR  
ENOUGH FOR A  
HUNDRED MEN.

N-NEVER.

YIELD!

ENOUGH!

THE YAMA-  
KINGS AND I  
HAVE NO WISH  
TO SEE A  
WARRIOR OF K'UN-  
LUN BEATEN TO A  
PULP BECAUSE  
HIS PRIDE WILL  
NOT LET HIM  
ADMIT  
DEFEAT.

WENDELL RAND-K'AI IS VICTOR HERE. HE HAS  
EARNED THE RIGHT TO FACE SHOU-LAO. YOU  
HAVE FUGHT WELL, DAVOS; BE CONTENT WITH...

NO!!

DAVOS,  
BE SILENT!

THE DUEL CANNOT  
END--I STILL STAND! YOU  
DO THIS ONLY BECAUSE  
WENDELL RAND-K'AI  
IS YOUR SON!

SILENCE WILL  
NOT CHANGE  
THE TRUTH.

THE TRUTH  
IS THAT YOU  
WERE FAIRLY  
BEATEN--

--AND THAT  
YOUR WORDS HAVE  
SHAMED US ALL!

LEI KUNG SENT HIM TO THE TOWER OF MEDITATION, BUT DAVOS NEVER ARRIVED THERE.

INSTEAD, HE TREKKED OUT OF THE ETERNAL CITY TOWARDS THE TOWERING ESCARPMENT THAT SHELTERED AND PROTECTED KUN-LUN FROM THE WORLD AROUND IT.

TOWARDS FINALLY, A DOOR SET INTO A WALL OF GLEAMING CRYSTAL.

ARCHAIC ONE, HEAR THE WORDS OF DAVOS, SON OF LEI KUNG THE THUNDERER!

FACE ME, IF YOU DARE--FOR I HAVE COME TO TAKE YOUR HEART!

FOR A MOMENT, THERE WAS SILENCE.

THEN, WITH THE SPEED OF THOUGHT, THE ANCIENT DRAGON APPEARED AND ATTACKED.

SHOU-LAO DREW FIRST BLOOD, MARKING DAVOS WITH A SCAR HE WOULD WEAR TILL THE DAY HE DIED.

BUT HE COULDN'T HOLD ON LONG ENOUGH--THE PAIN WAS TOO GREAT.

BUT DAVOS KNEW THE DRAGON'S SECRET.

THE DRAGON LOOKED AT HIM A MOMENT, CONTEMPT IN ITS GREAT, GOLDEN EYES...

HE USED HIS BODY TO BLOCK THE POWER FLOWING FROM SHOU-LAO'S HEART WITHIN THE CHAMBER TO THE DRAGON BRAND ON ITS SINUOUS BODY.

...AND THEN IT WAS GONE.

LEI KUNG FOUND HIM WEEPING IN THE SNOW AND TOOK HIM HOME WITHOUT A WORD.

...WENDELL HAD FOLLOWED FOR REASONS OF HIS OWN.

WENDELL, STRANGELY, DID NOT CHALLENGE THE DRAGON. BUT WHEN KUN-LUN HAD NEXT APPEARED ON EARTH AND TUAN HAD BANISHED DAVOS TO EARTH TILL THE END OF TIME FOR HIS SACRILEGE...

SINCE THEN, TUAN HAD DIED. WENDELL'S BROTHER SUCCEDED HIM AS YU-TI. WENDELL HAD Sired A SON AND DIED. THAT SON HAD BECOME IRON FIST. AND DAVOS HAD WAITED, WATCHED, PLANNED...

...AND NOW, HE'S WON!

HEAR ME, WENDELL RAND--  
YOU THRIC-E-DAMNED SHADE!  
YOU SOUGHT TO CHEAT ME OF  
MY HEART'S DESIRE...

...BUT YOU  
FAILED! THE  
IRON FIST IS MINE!  
AND BEFORE THIS  
NIGHT IS ENDED--

--YOUR CURSED  
HALF-BREED HUMAN  
SON WILL JOIN YOU  
IN THE LAND OF  
THE DEAD!

HEY, TWINKLE-  
TEETH, COOL IT  
WITH THE  
YELLING!

YOU'LL  
WAKE THE  
NEIGHBORS.

I'VE BEEN GRABBED--

--SPIDER-MAN!

HOW  
BLINDLY  
PERCEPTIVE  
OF YOU,  
SCAR-FACE.

AN' IN  
ABOUT THREE  
SECONDS YOU'RE  
GOING TO GET  
PUNCHED AS  
WELL--SO DON'T  
GO 'WAY!

MISSED!

UNDERESTIMATED  
HIS SPEED. I KEEP  
THINKING OF HIM AS  
A NORMAL GUY--

--I'M  
UNCONSCIOUSLY  
PULLING MY  
PUNCHES!

AN' I'VE GOT  
A FEELING  
THAT'S A  
MISTAKE.

=000-00-OFF!=

HHUULLI--!

BOY, AM I  
GLAD MY  
CAMERA'S OUT  
OF FILM. THIS  
KIND OF SHOT  
JAMESON'D  
RUN ON  
PAGE 1.

I'D  
NEVER  
LIVE IT  
DOWN.



WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS  
THAT OLD SAYING: IF AT  
FIRST YOU DON'T  
SUCCEED...

FIND  
ANOTHER LINE  
OF WORK. I MISSED  
AGAIN!



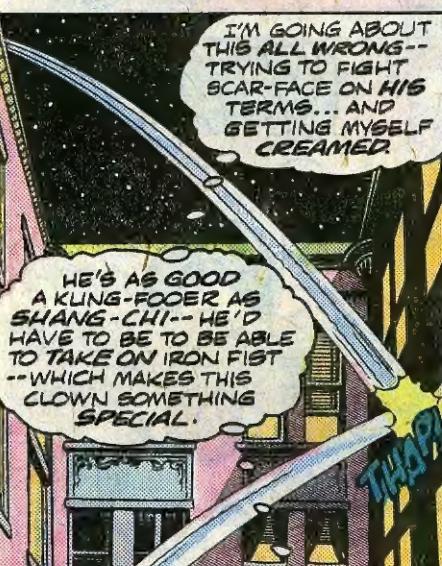
POOH! HAVE YOU  
NOT YET LEARNED  
THAT YOUR SO-CALLED SUPER  
POWERS ARE NOTHING--



...COMPARED  
TO THE SUPREME  
MARTIAL ARTS  
SKILL OF  
STEEL  
SERPENT?

OOPS!

I'M GOING ABOUT  
THIS ALL WRONG--  
TRYING TO FIGHT  
SCAR-FACE ON HIS  
TERMS... AND  
GETTING MYSELF  
CREAMED.



HE'S AS GOOD  
A KUNG-FOOER AS  
SHANG-CHI-- HE'D  
HAVE TO BE TO BE ABLE  
TO TAKE ON IRON FIST  
-- WHICH MAKES THIS  
CLOWN SOMETHING  
SPECIAL.

SURE HOPE THE GIRLS  
STAYED INSIDE LIKE I  
TOLD 'EM, 'CAUSE SCAR-FACE  
IS WAY OUTTA THEIR  
LEAGUE.

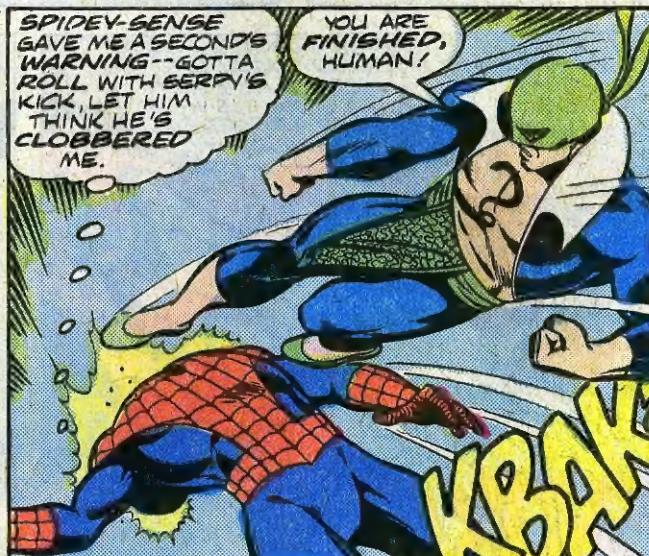


GUESS I'D  
BETTER GO  
UP AND  
FIND--



--CRIPES! HE IS  
BEHIND ME!

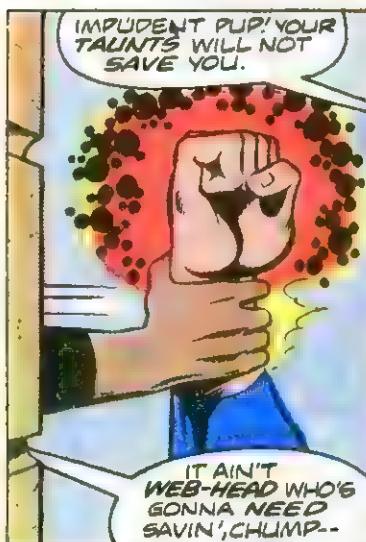
AND AS  
DEADLY IN  
HIS OWN WAY  
AS ANY GOON  
I'VE EVER  
FACED.



SPIDEY-SENSE  
GAVE ME A SECOND'S  
WARNING-- GOTTA  
ROLL WITH SERPY'S  
KICK, LET HIM  
THINK HE'S  
CLOBBERED  
ME.

YOU ARE  
FINISHED,  
HUMAN!

SO AS OF  
RIGHT NOW,  
THE KID GLOVES  
COME OFF!



UNFORTUNATELY, EVEN THE  
BEST-LAID PLANS OF MICE  
AND (SPIDER-)MEN...



BUT NOW THAT SCAR-FACE IS OFF BALANCE, I'VE GOT A CHANCE TO LAND SOME HAYMAKERS OF MY OWN!



SO IT GOES--SPIDEY STAYING JUST OUT OF STEEL SERPENT'S REACH AS HE LEADS THE VILLAIN A MERRY CHASE THROUGH THE DESERTED PLAY-GROUND, UNTIL...



I HAVE YOU, HERO! HEMMED IN BY THE BASEBALL BACKSTOP.



HE'S RIGHT! I CAN'T JUMP THE FENCE FROM THIS ANGLE, AND IF I TRY TO CLIMB IT HE'LL JUST SMASH THE WHOLE THING DOWN.



IT'S YOUR VAUNTED SPEED AGAINST MINE, WALL-CRAWLER, WHICH WILL PROVE FASTER...?



FOR YOU WILL NOT HARM SPIDER-MAN UNTIL YOU'VE FINISHED ME.



CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL, TWINKLE-TEETH!



NO, WITLING? JUST WATCH ME!



I'M WAITING,  
STEEL SERPENT.

NOT FOR  
LONG, BOY!

YOU CAN'T KEEP  
DODGING ME FOREVER.  
I'M AT THE PEAK OF MY  
FORM-- DESPITE THIS  
EVENING'S BATTLES--

--WHILE YOU  
ARE BUT A  
SHADOW OF  
YOUR FORMER  
SELF, SOONER  
OR LATER,  
YOU'LL MAKE  
A MISTAKE.



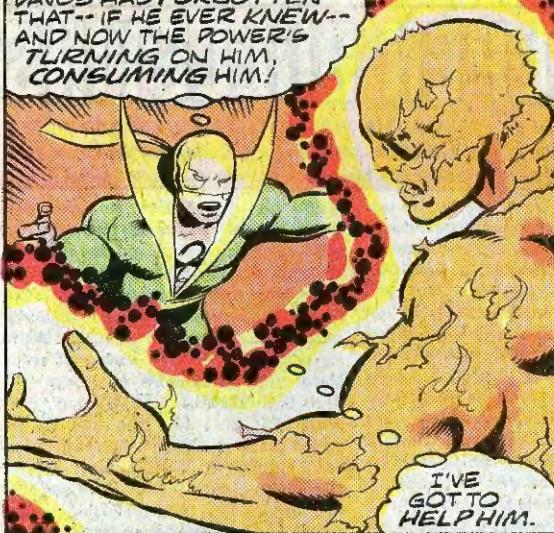


MISTY, SPIDER-MAN, LISTEN TO ME--PLEASE! I HAVE A SPECIAL KIND OF... RAPPORT WITH IRON FIST. I KNOW WHAT HE FEELS, HOW HE THINKS--I KNOW... HIM.

BEING IRON FIST IS MORE THAN WEARING A FANCY COSTUME AND HAVING A FIST THAT GLOWS IN THE DARK.



DAVOS HAS FORGOTTEN  
THAT-- IF HE EVER KNEW--  
AND NOW THE POWER'S  
TURNING ON HIM,  
CONSUMING HIM!



I'VE  
GOT TO  
HELP HIM.

ONLY SECONDS LEFT--  
HAVE TO TRY TO ABSORB  
THE POWER BACK INTO  
MY BODY-- DRAIN DAVOS  
AS HE DRAINED ME.

BUT THE  
POWER-- RAGING,  
TEARING AT HIM  
BODY AND SOUL--  
THE SHOCK MAY  
KILL BOTH OF  
US. HAVE TO RISK  
IT, THOUGH.

NO! YOU'RE  
TAKING MY  
POWER! BUT  
I WON'T LET  
YOU! I'LL--



DANNY!

IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE  
THAT ANYONE COULD HAVE  
SURVIVED THE HOLOCAUST,  
YET AMID A FIFTY-FOOT  
CIRCLE OF CHARGED AND  
BROKEN EARTH...



AND RISES HIS RIGHT  
HAND GLOWING WITH THE  
POWER OF THE IRON FIST.



...RETURNED ONCE MORE TO ITS RIGHTFUL MASTER.



DANNY--  
OH, GOD,  
**DANNY!!**  
YOU'RE ALIVE!  
YOU'RE ALL  
RIGHT!!

MISTY RUSHES INTO HIS ARMS, AND FOR THESE TWO, NO MORE WORDS ARE NECESSARY.



HEY, UH, IRON FIST, I HATE TO INTRUDE-- AN' I HOPE YOU'LL EXCUSE MY ASKING--

--BUT WHAT HAPPENED?!

TO STEEL SERPENT, YOU MEAN?



THE IRON FIST HAPPENED.

OH, THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING.

STRANGELY ENOUGH, IT DOES.

HE WANTED THE IRON FIST MORE THAN LIFE ITSELF-- WITHOUT REALLY KNOWING WHAT IT WAS.



WHEN WE FOUGHT, HE FORGOT WHO HE WAS, WHAT HE WAS-- ALL THAT MATTERED WAS KILLING ME. ANY WAY HE COULD.

HE UNLEASHED THE IRON FIST, BUT PUT NO CHECK ON IT. SO, THE POWER BUILT UP INSIDE HIM, AND WHEN IT FINALLY TURNED ON HIM, HIS WILL WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD IT BACK.

POWER THIS GREAT IS OFTEN JUDGE, JURY, AND EXECUTIONER. STEEL SERPENT WASN'T WORTHY OF THE IRON FIST, AND HE'S PAID THE PRICE.



C'MON, HOTSHOT. YOU'RE STILL HURT-- WE'D BEST GET YOU HOME AND INTO BED.

MISTY-- SOMETHING'S BEEN BUGGING ME ALL EVENING...

HAVE WE MET BEFORE?



I WAS WONDERIN' WHEN YOU'D ASK.

WE SURE HAVE, WEB-HEAD. A FEW CHRISTMAS EVES BACK, I GOT JUMPED BY SOME MUGGERS ON MY WAY TO A PARTY IN JERSEY.

YOU AN' SOME DUDE IN A FLYIN' BATHTUB TOOK CARE OF 'EM FOR ME.

THERE'S LAUGHTER NOW, FADING QUICKLY INTO THE NIGHT. AND THEN, FINALLY, THERE'S ONLY... SILENCE.

EPILOGUE:

NESTLED IN A HIGH-MOUNTAIN VALLEY ON AN EARTH THAT IS BOTH LIKE AND UNLIKE OUR OWN STANDS THE IMMORTAL CITY OF K'UN-LUN.

TO SOME, IT IS THE ABODE OF THE GODS. TO OTHERS, THE EMBODIMENT OF A DREAM!

TO A VERY FEW, IT IS SIMPLY HOME. AND AS IN HOMES EVERYWHERE, THERE ARE FATHERS AND SONS, BIRTHS AND DEATHS...

...LOVE AND HATE.

AND GRIEF EVEN IN AN IMMORTAL CITY, MEN GRIEVE FOR THOSE THEY HAVE LOVED... AND LOST.

LEI KUNG!

MY LORD! FOR--FORGIVE ME. YU-TI, I DID NOT MEAN TO INTRUDE ON YOUR INNER SANCTUM... I...

ONLY NOW IT'S TOO LATE FOR WISHING.

I KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED, THUNDERER. I AM TRULY SORRY FOR YOUR SON'S DEATH. I WISH... I WISH... SO MUCH...

I AM OLD BEFORE MY TIME, MY FRIEND, AND I AM ALONE.

THAT CHOICE WAS YOURS, DRAGON LORD.

AND I HAVE PAID FOR IT. I LOOKED AT YOUR SON-- AT STEEL SERPENT-- AND I SAW MYSELF. I, TOO, HATED AND FEARED IRON FIST-- AT TIMES, I EVEN WISHED HIM DEAD.

I MUST HAVE BEEN MAD.

TO HAVE KNOWN DANIEL RAND FOR HALF HIS LIFE AND YET NOT KNOW THE BOY AT ALL. HIS LIFE IS BOUND TO EARTH.

PERHAPS, MY LORD. BUT HE IS AN IMMORTAL SON OF AN IMMORTAL CITY...

K'UN-LUN-- ALL WE ARE, ALL WE REPRESENT-- IS TO HIM NO MORE THAN A DREAM.

...AND BOTH OUR STORIES ARE FAR FROM ENDED.

BECAUSE I THOUGHT THAT-- ONE DAY-- HE WOULD RETURN TO K'UN-LUN AND TAKE FROM ME MY HEART'S DESIRE.

NEXT. COMING OF

CAPTAIN BRITAIN

